

THE SOUTHWICK/SUFFIELD

ADVERTISER/NEWS

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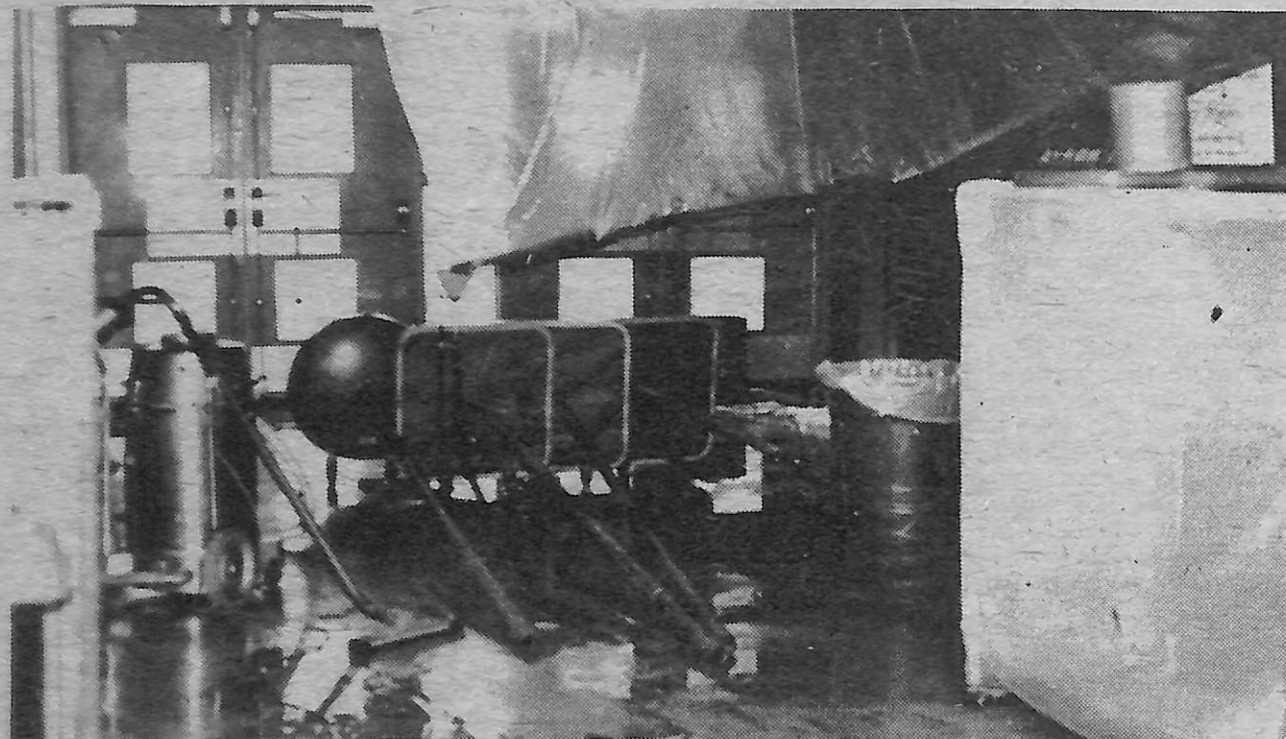
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Volume I, Number 21

"Good News Surrounds Us"

February 6, 1982



This corridor of Southwick High School was filled with huge plastic tents instead of students last week as the roof leaked rainwater and snow runoff into the building and caused classes to be cancelled. Advertiser/News photo by Andi Phelps.

Leaky Roof At Southwick High Causes Officials' Big Headache

By Andi Phelps

In discussion at their meeting last Tuesday evening, school department authorities declared that nothing can be done presently to patch the badly leaking high school roof, even temporarily, because of weather conditions. The high school has already been closed three days since January 5th due to the water problem.

Superintendent of Schools Louis Josselyn said that if Southwick gets a long thaw, water collected on the roof from melting snow might be able to be pumped off, adding that the snow from the roof cannot be plowed.

Upon School Committee request, selectmen can declare the roof situation an emergency, and with permission from the Department of Revenue, money for repairs can be taken from available funds. If no funds are available, an emergency finance board can approve a two-year bond issue, which would then need approval of 2/3 of individuals at town meeting.

The committee indicated that, in an emergency, only leaking areas would be repaired, not the entire roof. A tarpaulin would be extremely expensive and ends and seams might possibly leak, Business Manager Kenneth Johnson noted.

"We hope we can buy time to get a good bid and do the job right," said Committeeman Jeffrey Youens.

According to a recent estimate, repair and replacement of the damaged insulation could cost \$400,000. Architects, Inc. of Northampton told the committee it would cost \$825,000 to replace roofs on the three town schools.

In other business undertaken, the School Committee agreed to submit a five-year projection of possible capital expenditures to the Finance Committee. According to Johnson, the department plans to purchase at least one school bus a year, estimated to cost

\$25,000 this year to \$30,000 in five years.

Plans also call for replacement of a maintenance van at \$8,000; a maintenance truck at \$12,000; and a maintenance tractor at \$12,000.

Johnson listed the purchase of one major piece of equipment a year for the next three years. Included in the list was replacement of school equipment, such as typewriters, business and home economics equipment, classroom furniture, and grounds equipment. These expenditures would be about \$10,000 to \$15,000 annually for the next five years, he estimated.

School Committee members discussed the possibility of replacing Philip Hall, who recently resigned from the board. Members were of the opinion that, while it would be good to have a full board, there are only ten weeks before the April 13th annual election and that someone appointed now would have to cope with making up the budget as well as dealing with contract negotiations.

According to law, the School Committee must notify selectmen of the vacancy by February 25th. The board did not feel a new member would be an asset at this time and indicated that they would make every effort to compensate for the vacancy. In April, the town will vote on three school committee positions: one for a two-year term and two for three-year terms.

The committee also voted to increase fees for tutors from \$5 to \$7.50 per hour. According to Patricia Gagnon of the Department of Special Needs, area towns pay from \$7.50 to \$10 hourly for tutors for regular education children who, for medical reasons, are out of school for more than fourteen days. She estimated that tutors serve each student four hours a week.

Sponberg Resigns Highway Post

By Andi Phelps

SOUTHWICK: Selectmen accepted the resignation of Highway Superintendent Clifford Sponberg, effective April 9 at their regularly scheduled meeting.

Sponberg has been with the department for over 16 years, and was appointed superintendent in May, 1978.

Selectwoman Vivian Brown voted against the resignation as she felt it may have been caused by recent adverse publicity by "uninformed officials" (and public comments) concerning the operation of the highway department.

Mrs. Brown noted that Sponberg operated his department "efficiently and economically" despite this year's budget and manpower cuts. She said that all cities and towns were facing funding problems due to the severe winter weather conditions and that the superintendent was cooperating with selectmen in an effort to keep expenses down after being made aware of the financial situation.

In a related matter, selectman Russell Fox said Wednesday the town is in "deep trouble" because of money spent this year for snow removal. He said the highway department had been draining other departmental accounts to compensate for the shortfall. He said this will affect capital projects and there will be little funding remaining for work to be done in the spring.

Fox suggested the possibility of asking a special town meeting for the necessary funding. Eight thousand dollars was cut from the highway department's budget for fiscal '81 due to the restraints of Proposition 2 1/2. Allotted \$20,000 for this year's winter operations, the department is already \$12,000 over budget.

In planning for future capital expenditures, selectmen also discussed replacing a "vintage" wing plow for the highway department. Robert Clark Jr. of Tri-County Construction Contracting Inc., of West Springfield, told the board that such a plow would cost between \$11,800 and \$15,000, depending on size and options.

Repair and replacement of parts for the 36-year old plow could prove fruitless said Clark because of the inavailability of parts and the expense involved. This type of plow is expected to last about 20 years, he added.

According to officials, the present equipment is ineffective and expensive to operate because of its age and condition. The board will also like to purchase a larger truck for the plow. The present truck is only used for the plow and is not servicable for other operations.

The board felt that a different type of truck could be used year round for various operations and would replace two of the present vehicles in the highway department.

In other business, selectmen discussed the need to inform residents that the volunteer fire department is not available to pump out flooded cellars. An emergency situation existed last week, said Fox, and the department was called to pump a cellar although this is not the town's responsibility, he added.

Residents should be aware of areas of possible flooding and have sump pumps and drains to take care of their problems, chairman John Viel said.

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Letter To Editor - Page 9

Southwick Recreation Center Las Vegas Night Rescheduled For Tonight Beginning At 7

School Board Approves Drivers' New Contract

By Connie Davis

Suffield: The Suffield Board of Education last Tuesday unanimously approved the 1982-'83 school bus drivers' contract, which provides an 8% across-the-board increase as well as pays the cost of fuel and liability insurance.

Assistant Superintendent of Schools Frank Albus explained details of the Spaulding Roof Report.

First Selectman Earl Waterman distributed copies of the proposed ordinance being drafted by Town Counsel Charles Alfano to establish a Permanent Building Committee.

Waterman stated, "Such a committee will provide continuity and expertise, receive input from each commission, and be in the best interest of everybody."

New schools, additions, or major changes would come under jurisdiction of the PBC.

High School Guidance Counselor Stuart Fuller gave an update on Scholastic Aptitude Tests (SAT's) and stated that 65% of Suffield High School graduates go on to four-year schools.

In other business, approval was granted to fifth-grade teacher Gale Lynch for sabbatical leave. During the 1982-'83 school year, she will be a fulltime student at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, in a program entitled "Instructional Applications of Computers." Upon course completion, she will return to Suffield schools.

The Board of Education will receive next year's budget from subcommittee at its February 16th meeting. Chairman Robert Newman announced that open budget hearings will be held February 23rd and 25th in the Spaulding School cafeteria at 7:30 p.m.

"At that time, we will summarize the budget, receive comments, and hear discussion by the public," Newman said, adding that he hoped for a good turnout.

Join Access Team

Suffield: Although cable television will not be available in Suffield for two years, the members of the Suffield Advisory Committee on Cable TV are conducting a search for volunteers interested in participating in local access programming.

Local access channels are those set aside by the cable companies for the exclusive use of the community. Access channel and programming equipment are available free of charge to any citizen, community group, religious organization, or educational institution.

When the system is set to go on-line, volunteers will have received an extensive training program in such areas as video production, scriptwriting, camera work, and other areas of television production. The quality and quantity of local programming will, in large part, depend on strong community participation.

The local access channels can give the ten-town franchise district more of a sense of community. Individual communities themselves will become more familiar with resources, issues and problems that can affect their lives. A typical day on the access channel can offer local news, a school sporting event, a session of an adult education course, a town meeting, or any other event of interest.

The Suffield Advisory Committee needs to learn the names of those interested in participating for two purposes. At the upcoming hearings before the State Department of Utility Control, it is vital to demonstrate the degree of local interest in access channels. Insufficient interest could lead to a minimal provision of access when the franchise is awarded.

The group also needs to begin planning a local program strategy so as to be ready for broadcast when cable television comes to Suffield. Those indicating an interest now will have the opportunity to receive training free of charge just before the start of broadcasting and so be a vital part in Suffield's access programming.

Individuals who would be interested, those with ideas for cable in Suffield and community organizations which can project their use of this medium are urged to write the Advisory Committee, c/o Biggio, 595 North Main Street, Suffield, CT or call 668-2325.

Southwick Board Supports "Modified" DPW

By Andi Phelps

Southwick: The Southwick highway and water departments will soon be merged into a "modified" Department of Public Works. While no official action has been taken, the recent resignation of Highway Superintendent Clifford Sponberg Jr., makes it easier to consolidate the two departments, according to Selectman Chairman John Viel.

Selectmen met Thursday evening with the DPW Study Committee and Finance Committee to discuss the proposed DPW plans. The modified plan calls for one superintendent, hired from within the system, to oversee the highway and water departments, rather than hiring a professional engineer as DPW supervisor for several departments.

Viel explained that selectmen could appoint an "acting" superintendent for this type of arrangement without a town meeting vote. It is an experimental set-up, he said, adding, "If it does not work the town can revert back to the two department head structure."

By appointing the water superintendent to take on highway department responsibilities "with a small pay increase," the town could save enough money to hire added laborers, Viel observed. No one has officially been appointed for the position at this time, he said, "but we want to have something in the works by April when Sponberg leaves."

Both the Finance Board and selectmen favored public works reorganization. Selectwoman Vivian Brown noted, however, that she felt more public discussion on the plan was needed. Mrs. Brown said she has always favored formation of a DPW but the modified plan had been proposed without her knowledge.

Selectmen plan to develop complete job descriptions and organizational lay-out as suggested by James Putnam of the Finance Committee. They also said they would keep the study committee informed of their actions regarding this matter and would call on that committee for future recommendations.

The original plan called for a consolidation of the highway and water departments, cemetery commission and town dump under one superintendent. The study noted that this type of plan would allow for pooling of manpower and equipment for more efficient use.

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Selectmen Appoint Heydon A. Moore To Health Board

By Andi Phelps

SOUTHWICK: Selectmen and the Board of Health Wednesday unanimously voted to appoint Heydon A. Moore of 154 Vining Hill Road to the Health Board. Moore will serve until the annual election in April. Because of resignations from the elected board, two positions will be vacant in the spring, one for a three year term and one for a one year term.

Moore, formerly a Navy medic, is now employed as a medical trainer. He has had experience in the inspection of food service establishments in his work with the Navy. According to Health Board Chairman Leo Sagan, Moore will be available during the day when other members of the board are not.

Food service permits were instituted by the board last year and establishments must be inspected to renew the permit. There are 33 inspections now scheduled to be done, Sagan said.

The Board of Health has also ordered Cornelius Smit of Duxbury, owner of the gravel pit off Gillette Avenue, to demolish and remove all equipment and structures from the site and to level and grade the entire area. According to officials, the gravel pit has been closed for two years but equipment and sand piles still remain on the site.

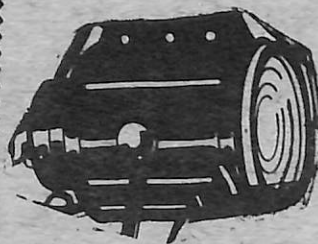
The site was the scene of a near tragedy in November when a 14 year old boy had to be rescued when a tunnel he had dug collapsed. Neighbors have termed the site hazardous to children playing in the area. According to Building Inspector Ferminio Benetti, the site is too extensive to seal off.

Sagan also reported that various health violations at Lakeview Apartments had been corrected. Thomas Fitzgerald, a health inspector contracted by town

Counsel John Burke, had inspected and evaluated nine of the ten apartments in question. Local managers had to contact property owners D.B.G. Management Corp. of New York City, before work could be done at the complex and this took a great time of time, according to Sagan.

The Health Board is considering a budget increase of \$700 this year. The present budget is \$3,452. The planned increase will cover \$300 to pay for a regular consultant, and increases of \$150 for travel, \$150 for visiting nurses fees and \$100 for clerk's salary.

The Visiting Nurses Association which is contracted by the local board has raised its rates more than 20 percent. The board also cut \$150 from its travel account last year to comply with the Proposition 2 1/2 limit.



SPOTLIGHT ON SENIORS

SOUTHWICK SENIOR MENUS

Mon., Feb. 8: Stuffed cabbage, whipped potatoes, green beans, rye bread w/marg., pineapple chunks, milk

Tues., Feb. 9: Turkey a la king, Mexi corn, biscuit, tapioca pudding, milk

Wed., Feb. 10: American chop suey, brussel sprouts, tomato juice, wheat bread w/marg., apple, milk

Thurs., Feb. 11: Pot roast w/gravy, oven browned potato, peas, rye bread w/marg., oatmeal cookies, milk

Fri., Feb. 12: Baked cod, buttered noodles, butternut squash, cole slaw, wheat bread w/marg., canned pears, milk

There will be a meeting of Southwick senior citizens at the Senior Center on February 8th from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

On February 9th, Senior Center aide Dorothy Flagg and Chairman of the Council

on Aging Joan Randolph will attend the Hilltown Transportation meeting in Huntington. Dorothy will also attend the Highland Valley meeting at the Easthampton Community Center that day along with other senior aides.

On Tuesday, February 9th, the Meal Site Council in Southwick will sponsor the Southwick High School Chorale at the Senior Center right after lunch for a short musical program. All seniors are invited. If you wish to attend lunch, call Barbara Briggs at 569-5498 before 11 a.m. of the previous day.

Older persons should take the following measures to protect themselves from hypothermia, a cold-weather threat:

* Avoid prolonged exposure to even mild temperatures near 65°, especially those persons over 70 years of age, unless wearing protective clothing;

* Cover up warmly in bed;

* Consult with physicians if you are taking medication to treat anxiety, depression, nervousness, or nausea to determine if the medicine impairs the body's response to cold.

To obtain pamphlets on "Accidental Hypothermia - A Winter Hazard for the Old" write to the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Public Health Services, Bethesda, Maryland 20205

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Suffield Women Present \$700 Gift



MRS. RICHARD THOMPSON, president of the Suffield Women's Club, is seen presenting Arthur Leibundguth, chairman of the Antiquarian and Landmarks Society, Inc., of Connecticut a check for \$700 for the Hatheway Barn Renovation Fund. Funds were raised by the club's recent luncheon/fashion show and raffle. Advertiser/News photo by John Loftus.

Kent Library Activities

Two special documentary films will be presented to senior citizens and friends at Maple Court on Wednesday, February 10th, at 10 a.m.

"Silent Witness" is a detective story involving art historians, scientists, church hierarchy, and scholars who investigate the legendary Shroud of Turin.

"Shire Horses" takes a leisurely look at farms and farmlife in Yorkshire, especially as it revolves around the heavy, handsome horses of the region.

The films will run about two hours and will be followed by luncheon served by the Suffield Recreation Department. Free minibuses transportation may be obtained.

A decorative and fun way to save energy will be explored at the Kent Library in a joint program sponsored with the Cooperative Extension Energy Office on Tuesday, February 16th, at 7:30 p.m.

Coverlets and window shades can be fashioned by practically anyone, and Ted Jones of the extension service will be on hand to show some of the practical uses these items can be put to. This program is for anyone, even those who rent, to learn about how they can manage to stay warm.

Mapleton Literary Club Slates Meeting

Suffield: The Mapleton Literary Club will meet on Wednesday, February 10th, at the firehouse on Mountain Road.

Miss Elizabeth Biggerstaff will give readings, and Ruth Lincoln, Gertrude Hastings, Adell Gardiner, Ruby Trudo, Gertrude Bass, and Audrey Spulick will serve as hostesses.

SUFFIELD CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(Sponsored By The Friends Of The Kent Memorial Library)

Mon., Feb. 8: Emergency Aid Assn. Board Mtg. 1 p.m., clinic building; Film, Kent Library, 7 p.m., free; Fire drill, 7 p.m., Central Firehouse; Board of Finance, 7:30, Town Hall; Prayer Mtg. 8 p.m., Sacred Heart hall.

Tues., Feb. 9: Rotary, 6 p.m., Suffield Inn; Troop 260, 7 p.m., St. Joseph's hall; Housing Authority, 7:30, Town Hall Annex; Water Pollution Control Authority, 7:30, Town Hall; Kent Library Board of Trustees, 7:30, library; Sacred Heart Women's Guild, 7:30, parish hall.

Wed., Feb. 10: Thrift Shop open 10-3:30; Board of Tax Review, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; 7-9 p.m., Town Hall; Sr. Citizens program, 10 a.m., Maple Court; Booster Club, 7:30, Suffield High cafeteria; Police Comm., 7:30, Town Hall; Recreation Comm., 7:30, Town Hall; Retirement Comm., 7:30, Town Hall; St. Joseph's Rosary Guild, 7:30, church hall.

Thurs., Feb. 11: Ambulance Assn., 7:30, Town Hall Annex; Holy Name bingo, 7:30, St. Joseph's hall; Selectmen mtg., 7:30, Town Hall.

Fri., Feb. 12: Town Hall closed

Sat., Feb. 13: Valentine making 9-5, library

Sun., Feb. 14: Library open 1-4:30

Flyers Plan Oldies Dance

Suffield: The Suffield Flyers hockey organization has announced plans for their annual Oldies But Goodies Dance to be held Saturday, February 27th, at the Spaulding School on Mountain Road, Suffield.

The dance will feature disc jockey Larry "Grizzly Bear" Patsch spinning records from the 50's, 60's, and 70's and is open to the public. Prizes will be awarded for the best dancer in several categories and in the best 50's costume.

Music will begin promptly at 9 p.m. with dancing continuing till 1 a.m. Set-ups will be provided by the Flyers.

Tickets are \$10 per couple and can be purchased from any Flyers' member or at the door. For further information, call Pat Humiston at 668-5720 or Dave Gunn at 668-5909.

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Slated Tonight... Rec. Center's Las Vegas Night Rescheduled

By Valeria Melloni

The Southwick Recreation Center will take on a new look Saturday, February 6th, as more than 75 volunteers transform the familiar basketball court into a "chamber of fate, chance, and luck."

The center, located off Powder Mill Road, will be hold its first "Las Vegas Night" of 1982. The doors will open at 7 p.m. and players may try their luck until midnight.

The donation of \$3.00 per person, as well as all of the proceeds, will go to the kids in one form or another whether it be for maintenance on the building or for uniforms and athletic equipment, according to Art Menard, a very active board member.

Dave McClellan, chairman of the fundraising committee, who serves on many other committees as well, expects between 300 and 500 people to attend.

"The center is very proud of the fact that we own our own money wheel, which I might add is the most popular game of the evening," says McClellan.

Besides the well-known roulette wheel and game of blackjack, one might like to roll the dice while playing "7 over 7 under," "craps," "chuk-a-luk," or "beat the dealer."

Southwick Grange To Meet

The next regular meeting of the Southwick Grange will be held on Tuesday, February 9th, at the Grange Hall at 8 p.m. Frederick Hepburn, master, will preside at the business meeting.

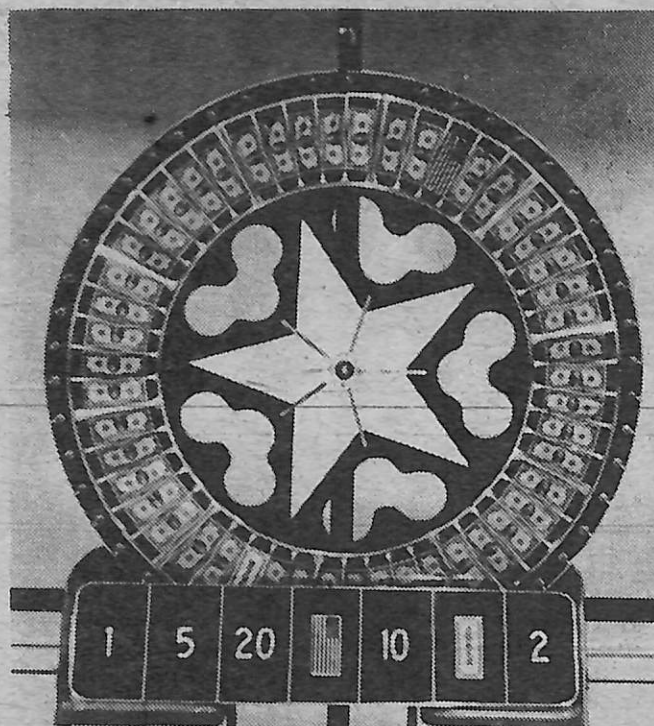
The Home and Community Service Committee will be in charge of the program which will be "Making the Most of Your Life" by Shirley Miettlicki, Extension Family Life Educator of the Cooperative Extension Service.

Refreshments under the direction of Hasmig and Gene Ryer, Barbara and Norman Stromgren, and Barbara and John Morpeth will be served following the program.

Pomona Grange

An educational aid program will be presented at the meeting of Pioneer Valley Pomona Grange at Southwick Grange Hall on February 12th at 7:30 p.m.

A group of students from West Springfield will entertain under the direction of Mrs. Donna Herman of Westfield. Junior Grangers from Southwick and Feeding Hills will attend.



THE MONEY WHEEL is a well-known crowd-pleaser whenever the Southwick Recreation Center has a Las Vegas Night. This Saturday night you can join many lucky winners at the Southwick Rec Center's annual Las Vegas Night on Powder Mill Road. Advertiser/News photo by John Loftus.

Refreshments will include soft drinks, coffee, alcoholic beverages, fresh popcorn and candy.

The kitchen area will be primarily used as a "chip transfer room," where money chips may be purchased in denominations of 50¢, \$1, and \$5.

"Because we have a license for bingo, we must be licensed by the State Lottery Commission to operate a Las Vegas Night," McClellan points out as he flips through the pages of rules and regulations in his black binder. "Some Vegas nights, primarily those being run on a town license alone, receive bad publicity, thereby passing a bad reputation on to those being properly run. We want to make it known that the rules are set up to protect the players, and they are good roles."

Plans are underway for two more Vegas nights, the first for March 27th and the second for May 15th.

Successful as the Las Vegas nights are, bingo is still the number one fundraising event at the Rec Center. Bingo is played every Wednesday night beginning at 6:15. McClellan says people come not only from the surrounding towns, but as far away as Blanford, Chester, and Plainville, Connecticut, to participate in this friendly game of chance. McClellan estimates the average crowd at 285 people and would like to see an increase in 1982.

These and all our fundraising activities are great," adds Menard, "however, getting people to volunteer their time isn't always so easy. The center could use a few volunteer coaches, especially for basketball, and people to serve on our board of directors are always welcome as are any suggestions for forming adult team activities. We'd love to see the building used every night of the week."

Saturday, February 27th, has been set aside to honor the many volunteers who donate their time at both bingo and Las Vegas nights. An appreciation dinner dance will be held. Without the dedication of the volunteers, the SRC would not be able to function and grow, according to McClellan.

The SRC's basic philosophy is summed up in one sentence by Dave McClellan: "We're getting bigger and better because we listen to what our supporters have to say."

For further information concerning the SRC, call 569-5950 evenings or 569-5811 days.

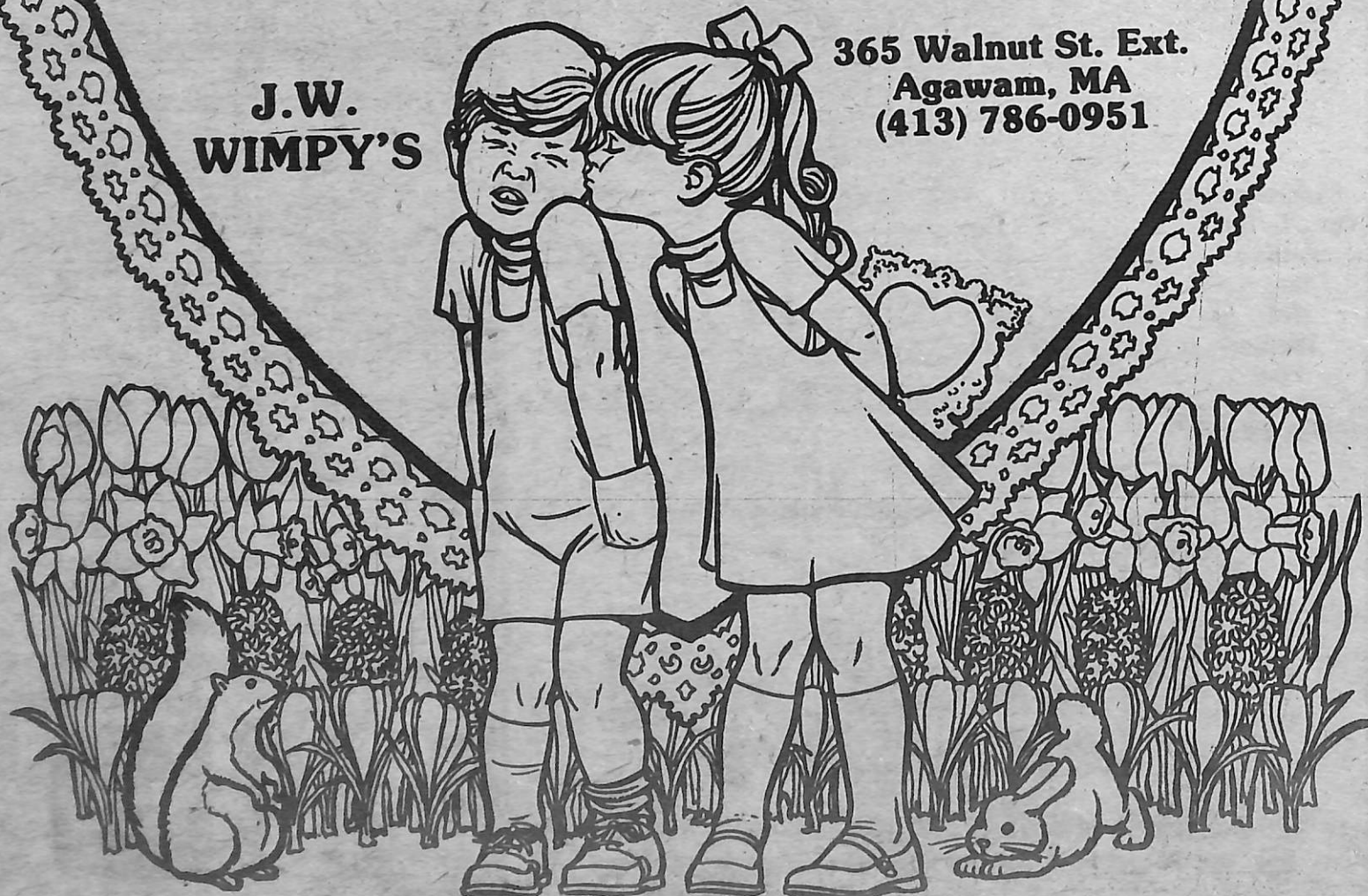
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MRS. JOHN GEARY, (right), president of the Suffield Garden Club presented several awards to McAlister school students for their participation in a recently held environmental poster contest, supervised by art teacher Ruth Potter (left). Winning McAlister students include, from left; Thomas Mitchell (third), Andy Bennett (second), and Peter Martyn (first place). Advertiser/News photo by John Loftus.

Kent Library To Present Peter Lorre Thriller

Suffield: "M," the gripping thriller starring Peter Lorre will be the next presentation in the Kent Memorial Library Reel Evil film series on Monday, February 8th at 7 p.m.

Director Fritz Lang's innovative camera work and set create a threatening and overwhelming world of dark shadows and irregular angles. It's the world through the eyes of a child or better yet, the eyes of a psychotic child killer.

Admission is free in this film in a series shown every other Monday evening at 7 p.m.

FFA To Sponsor Program On Small Farm Taxation

Suffield: On Tuesday, February 9th, the Suffield Future Farmers of America Alumni Group will sponsor an educational night program on Small Farm Taxation.

Robewrt Toteman, the farm management specialist at Farm Credit Bank of Springfield, will speak and then answer any questions. The program will take place at the Suffield Vocational Agriculture Center, Suffield High School, 350 Mountain Road, beginning at 7:30 p.m. and is open to the public.

Garden Club Recognizes Poster Award Winners

Suffield: Suffield Garden Club President Mrs. John Geary recently presented prizes to three McAlister Middle School students who were winners in the 1982 ecology poster contest sponsored by the club.

With the cooperation of art teacher, Mrs. Ruth Potter, students in grade seven entered the contest, and their entries were judged by four garden club members.

First prize was awarded to Peter Martyn; second prize to Andy Bennett; and third prize to Thomas Mitchell.

The winning posters, together with several others submitted by Suffield youngsters, have been sent to the state poster chairman of the Connecticut Federation of Garden Clubs, who will send the best in the state entries from schoolchildren and senior citizens to a New England regional contest. Regional winners will then go national competition.

The environmental poster contest is sponsored jointly by garden clubs all over the United States, the U.S.D.A. Forest Service, and State Foresters. It is an effort to increase awareness of the need to protect the country's natural resources through prevention of forest fires, air and water pollution, anti-litter campaigns, and so on.

Suffield entries centered on prevention of forest fires and anti-litter. "Don't be mean; Keep our streets clean" was one prize-winning message.

Beekeepers' Association Schedules Meeting

The Hampden County Beekeepers' Association will meet on Saturday, February 13th, at 7:30 p.m. at the Feeding Hills Grange Hall on North West Street.

All interested persons are welcome to hear a discussion about preparing honey for market and show. For more information, call 786-1533.

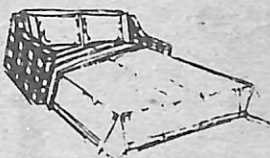
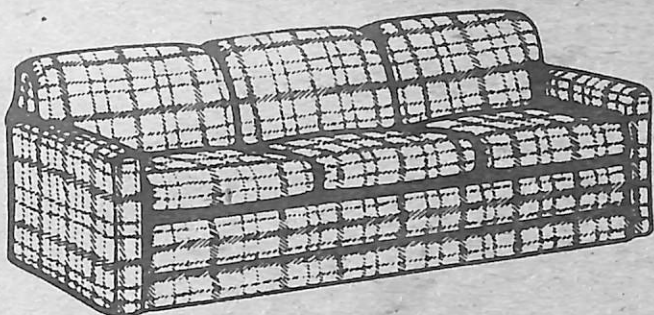
Westfield Arts Council Presents Variety Show

The Westfield Arts Council proudly presents the Buckfield Leather 'n Lather Traveling Variety Show with Stromberg and Cooper as special guests on Tuesday, February 9th, at South Middle School, Westfield, at 7:30 p.m.

This group is talented, funny, and composed of a company of true artists who perform gymnastics, music, mime, and magic. This is a professional performance designed for family audiences.

Tickets are available at the Chamber of Commerce, Westfield High School, or at the door. Funding for this performance has been provided, in part, by a grant from the New England Telephone Company through the New England Foundation for the Arts.

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Lucile Loiseau
Owner

Ames Dept. Store Opens In Southwick

Thursday, February 11th, marks the grand opening of the newest Ames Discount Department Store, located on College Highway on the corner of Vining Road, Southwick.

Doors to the 32,400 square foot store will open at 9:30 a.m., following a traditional ribbon-cutting ceremony. Participating in the brief scissor snip with Ames officials will be state and local dignitaries.

The new store in Southwick will feature 87 departments of quality merchandise at low prices. From wicker home furnishings to fashionable misses' sweaters, from brand-name appliances to sporting goods, the Southwick store will feature some of America's best brands for the entire family.

The new Ames store in Southwick will bring to three the number of Ames stores in Massachusetts, including stores in Westfield and Sturbridge. The Southwick store will also serve the communities of north central Connecticut.

The Southwick Ames store will open Monday through Friday 9:30 to 9:30, and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Kent Library Offers Children's Programs

Suffield: Children are invited to the Kent Memorial Library on Saturday, February 13th, for a drop-in valentine making session. Joseph DiSciaccia will be present from 1 to 3 o'clock to assist children in their creations. Materials will be available for children to make valentine's 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The movie *Pippi in the South Seas* will be shown during February school vacation on Wednesday, February 17th, at 1:30 in the auditorium at Kent Memorial Library.

The movie is 85 minutes long and is based on the book by Astrid Lindgren in which Pippi's father has been captured by pirates and Pippi, Tommy and Anika take off to rescue him.

For more information, call the library at 668-2325.

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Senior Events

SOUTHWICK

Mon., Feb. 8th
Senior Meeting
Senior Center
1:30-3:30 p.m.

Every Monday
Community Bowl
Westfield
1:00 pm

Tues., Feb. 9th
Swk. High Chorale
Music Program
Senior Center
12:30 p.m.

Wed., Mar. 17th
Blood Pressure Clinic
Senior Center
2:45-2:45 p.m.

SUFFIELD

Mon., Feb. 8th
Workshop
"Draft Dodgers"
Maple Court
1:00 p.m.

Every Tuesday
Ten Pin Bowling
9:00 - 11:30 am
Bradley Bowl

Wed., Feb. 10th
Two Films At Library
10 a.m.
Soup Kitchen
Noon

Friday, Feb. 12
Shrine Circus
7:45 pm
State Armory
Hartford

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Attorney

Alan L. Ferrigno

546 Springfield Street Feeding Hills, MA.



LOCAL EMPLOYEE ED JENCZ anchors the sign in preparation for the February 11th Grand Opening of AMES DEPARTMENT STORE located on the corner of College Highway and Vining Road in Southwick. Advertiser/News photo by John Loftus.

**Engaged? Send Us
Your Announcement
P.O. Box 263
Feeding Hills, MA
01030**



Financial Facts

**Gary C. Smith
Suffield Savings Bank**

Paying with credit has become part of the American way of life. Store clerks automatically ask "Will this be a charge?" Most stores and banks encourage their customers to use charge cards or to pay for purchases on installment plans. Credit is such a fundamental part of our economy that there is a federal law (the Federal Equal Credit Opportunity Act) granting everyone equal access to credit.

This law does not mean that every credit application must be approved. But it does mean that every credit application should be reviewed fairly, using impartial standards. The law also requires that any denial of credit must be stated in writing with an explanation of the reason for denial.

Letters of credit denial are often sent for reasons which customers disagree with. If you feel your credit application was not given fair consideration, contact the store, bank or credit card company involved. Discuss your situation with them; you may be able to provide additional information that will allow your application to be approved. Or you may be able to convince the creditor to approve your request under different terms than originally applied for.

If your application was denied based on information that was supplied by an outside source such as a credit bureau, you have the right to go to the credit bureau and examine your file. Any incorrect credit information should be corrected by the bureau or the company that supplied it. But it will be up to you to make sure this is done.

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New Butcher Shop Opens In Southwick



NORMAN CLARKE, meat manager and co-owner of the newly opened Norm & Dave's Butcher Shop at 592 College Highway in Southwick, prepares to cut a roast just before his grand opening last week. Advertiser/News photo by John Loftus.

**FOR COPIES OF PHOTOS
In This Issue
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Community Scrapbook

By Claudia Scott

A Literary Advocate

Because Nancy Stoddard loves to read, she volunteers many hours to activities associated with reading. As president of the Friends of Kent Memorial Library for the past two years, Nancy is very interested in the library's role of providing books for the community. She enjoys working with the "Friends" because of the many additions to the library which result from their efforts.

Assistant director of the library, Francine Aloisa, says, "We at the library appreciate Nancy's time and the responsibility she has taken as a 'Friend' to make it such a successful year."

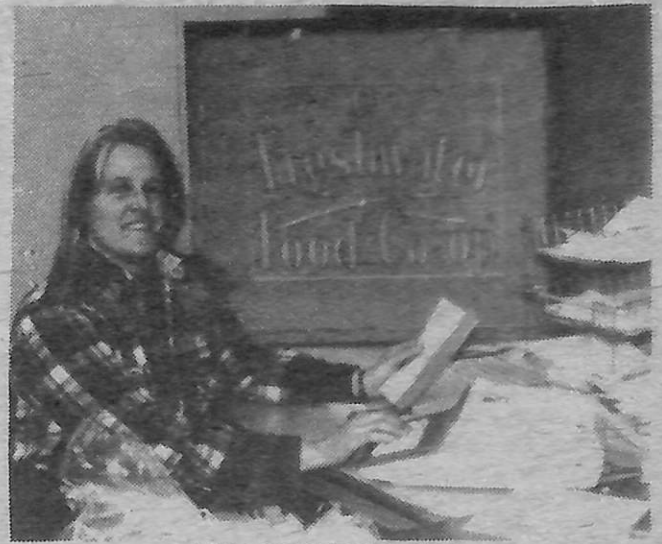
Ms. Aloisa mentions the educational toys, hard-cover books for tots, a cassette tape recorder, filmstrips, a performing artist's stool, and money for printing brochures as some of the items donated from Friends this past year. Funds for guest artists and lecturers are also among donations provided by the group under Nancy's leadership.

Nancy believes "If you can't read, you are locked into such a narrow life; your view of the world and your experiences are all so limited." This belief is the reason she belongs to the Literacy Volunteers of Connecticut, a non-profit organization which offers free one-to-one tutoring in reading, writing, and conversational English.

Nancy enthusiastically discusses this program, calling it a very rewarding activity. She volunteers one night a week and has worked with a Vietnamese couple, students at a nearby community college.

Her latest assignment offers a completely different experience from anything she has ever done before. When she volunteered for the new Basic Reading Tutoring Program at Somers Prison, she agreed to help out with mixed feelings, but is very happy she began because she found the work personally enriching as well as of service to others.

She is also taking courses at Asnuntuck Community College for her own fulfillment. Nancy praises this school highly, claiming that taking classes there has made her more willing to try more new experiences and more accepting of different groups, an attitude which was part of the reason she agreed to volunteer at the prison.



NANCY STODDARD

She also volunteers at the college as the purchasing manager for the Asnuntuck Co-Op, a food collective. She encourages people to call her at 668-2573 or drop in at the school between 10:00 and 2:30 or on Monday and Thursday nights to learn how they can buy wholesome food at wholesale prices. Nancy also takes special orders for people with allergies and is pleased that she has found a source of "tasty," no-salt cheese. She volunteers her time to this group because she feels that it fills another need for many people.

Nancy's interest in nutrition and cooperatives comes from her years in Southern California, where she worked at a co-op as well as for the Department of Agriculture. One of her more interesting assignments was inspecting chickens for "New Castle Disease" on the ranch of then-Governor Reagan. (The chickens, by the way, were healthy.)

She met her husband Llewellyn through her job for the Department of Agriculture. They have three children: Peggy, who is married and lives in California; Janet, a student at UConn; and David, who lives with them on their seven acres on Hill Street, where they also raise goats, chickens, and a few cats and dogs. Nancy's goal is to own horses again someday, something she did for years in California and misses very much since moving to Suffield nine years ago.

Nancy is proud of the fact that she is one of only two Suffield women who own school busses and are independent contractors to the school system. Because she also drives the bus, even her early hours are filled. With the little free time she has, Nancy enjoys reading English mysteries and participating in some of the activities of the Asnuntuck Outdoor Club.

Because Nancy believes that actions and time spent for others most often benefit the donor as well as the recipients, she does not mind her sometimes demanding schedule.

Did you know that one out of five Americans can't read this? 23 million adult Americans cannot read even simple things like grocery labels and job applications.

You can help! Literacy Volunteers of Connecticut will train you and match you with a student. Your only commitment is two hours a week at a location you can choose. Call (203) 236-5466 for more information. Someone really needs you. Please help.

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A Part Of Life

By Peter Forastiere
Colonial Funeral Chapel
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HOSPICE, DEATH, & THE FUNERAL

Hospice care, in its broadest sense, includes care of the patient and family prior to the time of death, at the time of death of the patient, and care of the family during the period of bereavement. Because hospice care includes attention to the many areas of need that can be present during this time of stress, it is common for hospice staff to discuss the need for spiritual support and to inquire into the patient and family interests regarding funeral services.

There is no standard hospice approach toward religion or religious beliefs. Yet a chaplain is a member of the hospice team and hospice programs recognize the value of religious beliefs and practices for the families they serve. Some persons do not desire spiritual support or religious services, and this is recognized and respected in hospice programs.

There is no standard hospice approach toward the funeral or funeral practices because of varying attitudes toward immediate post-death attitudes. Yet most hospice programs recognize the value of funerals and have established communication and working relationships with local funeral directors.

The two leading hospice training programs in the United States include funeral directors among their faculty, and the National Hospice Organization and its Standards document recognizes the significant role of the funeral director in collaborating with the hospice team at the time of death.

Hundreds of hospice programs in all areas of the country will be working with families who will be faced with the question of what to do about funeralization and disposition of remains of the person they loved and helped care for. They have time and support in which to consider their options in terms of arrangements for a funeral and the involvement of family and friends in whatever is decided upon.

Many family members who will plan these post-death activities will have been involved in providing physical care during the last days of life of the deceased. This is a return to the role that was once common for family members. Yet so many other elements have changed on our society and culture and economics that it is impossible to speculate what the trends may be years from now.

There are constant changes in the care of the dying and in immediate and extended post-death activities. Hospice care will be at the forefront of the change. Members of the hospice programs and funeral directors both have the common goal of improving services to families they serve.

The hospice is founded on the concept of care and love in the final stages of a terminal illness. The concept includes all attempts to bring the family and the dying person together so that each can draw strength and support from the other. It is a period of time when family ties are renewed and love and concern



Legal Memo

By Alan L. Ferrigno, Esq.

Antenuptial Agreements

While the matter is not free from dispute, it is apparent that the significant changes in public policy during the last decade in the area of domestic relations warrant a tolerant approach to the use of antenuptial contracts as vehicles for settling the property rights of partners in the event of divorce. *Osborne v. Osborne* (Mass. Adv. Sh.) 1981, 2216 at page 2223.

With these words, the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court last November held for the first time that "an antenuptial contract settling the alimony and property rights of the parties upon divorce is not per se against public policy and may be specifically enforced."

With divorce such a commonplace fact of life, it is reasonable to assume that many prospective marriage partners, be they young or old, may wish to have an antenuptial agreement resolving all property questions and alimony which might become a source of litigation in the future.

With the Osborne decision, a shift has taken place where it has now become generally we settled that antenuptial agreements are favored by the law.

for each other becomes the basis for each and every action. Support is found in doing and sharing the most elemental things in life. The family is the focus and basis of all activity.

The parallel of concepts between hospice and funeralization makes it natural for the family to move from the hospice environment for the dying patient to that of funeralization for the bereaved family. They transfer their strong feelings from one supportive environment to another as they move through the dying, death, and bereavement process.

In the process, family members are brought close to each other giving each other strength and support. Love and concern are most important. Support is found in doing together those things that are necessary, significant, and meaningful for each member of the family.

Letters To The Editor

Mrs. Brown Blames Bad Press For Resignation of Sponberg

To The Editor:

I want it in the record that I voted against accepting the resignation of Clifford Sponberg Jr., Superintendent of Highways.

I feel that his resignation might have been caused in part by the **adverse publicity made by public comments, by some town officials and by some people who are not accurately informed on the operation of the Highway Dept.** and on the entire situation that could have led to his resignation.

I feel that he may have been a victim of circumstances over which he had no control.

I am sorry to see that he took this action of resigning after giving dedicated and devoted services to the town of Southwick for the last sixteen (16) years.

He operated his department as efficiently and economically as he possibly could, since he also had the **added responsibilities** laid on his shoulders this year, such as, the maintenance of the transfer station, the Memorial Park, the town common as well as the Town Hall and library maintenance.

These he did with manpower and financial cuts this year in his highway budget.

I personally want to commend him to have been able to take on all of these added responsibilities and with the remaining hours of the day being able to regulate his regular highway duties.

I am also proud to say that at **no time** during his sixteen (16) years of employment in the town of Southwick has he been asked to appear before the Board of Selectmen acting as the highway commissioner for poor job performance with the exception of asking him to appear approximately five (5) weeks ago to call his attention that funds were running out of the winter plow account.

He was made aware of this problem and was willing to comply and cooperate with the recommendations of the Board of Selectmen to watch the operation of this account very carefully.

This problem, however, is not a problem that exists just here in Southwick, but one that exists in every surrounding city and town this year, since this winter has been a very exceptional and expensive year for all highway departments.

I hope the decision he has made will be the best for him and his family.

Vivian Brown
Member, Southwick Board of Selectmen

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SCHOOL NEWS

Southwick School Lunch Menus

Powder Mill & High Schools

Mon., Feb. 8: Chicken patty on bun, potato rounds, buttered corn, cookie, milk

Tues., Feb. 9: Tomato rice soup, tuna salad on frankfurter roll, cheese fingers, vegetable sticks, jello, milk

Wed., Feb. 10: Lasagna w/meat & cheese, Popeye salad, French bread, fruit cup, milk

Thurs., Feb. 11: Apple juice, hot ham & cheese on seeded roll, french fries, choc. or vanilla whip

Fri., Feb. 12: Honest Abe's pizza, Mount Vernon garden salad with Potomac dressing, George Washington's cherry pie, milk

Woodland School

Monday: Hamburger on roll, french fries, chilled fruit, milk

Tuesday: Same

Wednesday: American chop suey, buttered green beans, bread & butter, fruit cup, milk

Thursday: Turkey gravy on bread, buttered peas & carrots, bread & butter, pudding, milk

Friday: Same

Parents Of 8th Graders Slated To Meet

Southwick: An important meeting of parents of Powder Mill's eighth grade students will be held on Wednesday, February 10th, at 7:30 p.m. at the Southwick High School auditorium.

Discussion of student entrance into the high school will take place. Program offerings, course selections, and procedures for a successful transition to ninth grade will be explained by guidance counselors from both schools.

George LeBlanc, guidance counselor at Powder Mill, strongly encourages parents of current eighth graders to attend this informational meeting. Many of the decisions made in the next few weeks will have long-range effects on students during and after their high school years.

After-School Gym Program Excites Powder Mill Students

By Marcia Ramah

Southwick: A recently revived after-school gymnastics program at Powder Mill School has elicited such a tremendous response that classes have had to be divided into two groups.

According to Herbert Pace, principal at the school, the response was "terrific."

"No one expected this many students to sign up," he said, adding that students will now attend on Thursday or Friday, not both days.

After-school gymnastics has not been offered at the school for over two years due to a lack of coaches, Pace explained. This year, Barbara Drumm Mayne, an instructor for over thirty years, came forward to offer her services.

Mrs. Mayne, who has done most of her work in a private school, sees the public school system as a challenge. The teacher/pupil ratio is much larger than in private instruction, but Mrs. Mayne feels confident in her ability to train these youngsters.

An initial screening process was conducted for all students who registered for the program. Some had no prior gymnastics training, while others had acquired considerable skill.

All students will work on tumbling and floor exercises, and vaulting will be introduced. Some beam and ring work is also scheduled to be included in the instruction.

Mrs. Mayne was impressed with the youngsters who attended the first classes.

"They are excellent to work with," she stated. "Safety is of paramount importance to me and to Mr. Pace.

In enforcing rules for safety, she is very strict. Her gymnasts are required to pay careful attention to activity taking place and are never allowed to attempt any stunt unless an instructor "spots" them.

Aiding Mrs. Mayne in these classes is Daniel Hess, a senior at Westfield State College, who is himself a graduate of Southwick schools. Hess is pleased with the program and plans to make work of this type his career.

Joleen Skrodzki, a private student of Mrs. Mayne's for eleven years, also assists in spotting the performers.

Despite the large groups, students appear eager to learn. Each is given special attention when his or her turn to perform occurs. Everyone is hard at work building confidence and skill in preparation for a public exhibition tentatively slated for March 12th.

The revival of this program has met the needs of many youngsters who find gymnastics so enjoyable.

Firesafe Ideas

By the Suffield Firemen's Association, Inc.



Prevent Children's Burns

The most frequent burns to young children are caused by hot liquids. These burns can disfigure, and, if severe enough, will actually cause death.

Prevent these needless burns by doing the following:

1. Turn pot handles in on your stove;
2. Set appliances back from the counter edge and roll up electrical cords;
3. Look where children are before carrying hot liquids;
4. Test children's bath water with your wrist; run hot and cool water together; if necessary, lower the thermostat setting on your water heater;
5. Do not leave hot drinks unattended;
6. Never leave young children alone in the bathroom or kitchen.

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AGAWAM

Burgess' Home Restored

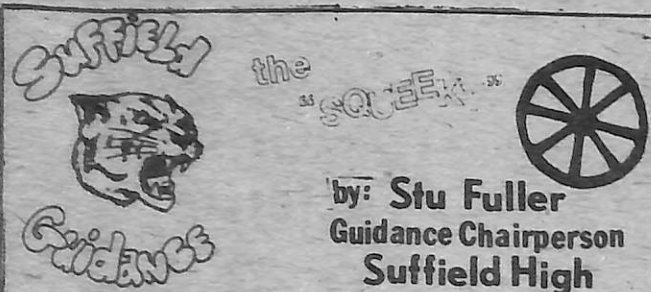
The former home of storyteller Thornton W. Burgess, located at Laughing Brook Education Center in Hampden, will soon be restored thanks to a \$45,000 grant just received from the Norcross Foundation of New York.

The 1782 Cape Cod-style house, the oldest in the town of Hampden, was the setting where Burgess wrote his 15,000 bedtime stories and seventy children's books that taught children and adults an appreciation of nature.

The grant monies will also be used to develop a museum that will house Burgess' papers and memorabilia. The museum will enable people to learn about Burgess' life and the influence that the setting at Laughing Brook had on his work.

The Massachusetts Audubon Society purchased the Burgess property after his death in 1965. Since then nearly 40,000 children and adults each year have visited the trails, wildlife exhibits, and the recently completed Environmental Center.

At the completion of the restoration, the Storyteller's House and Burgess Museum will be open for public tours, which are expected to draw large numbers of people of all ages.



by: **Stu Fuller**
Guidance Chairperson
Suffield High

Semester II is upon us! Report cards were distributed to students last Tuesday. Seniors are reminded once again to be sure they meet all the graduation requirements, failures of required courses MUST be made up to graduate in June.

On Monday, students began signing up for appointments with their counselors to MAKE their 1982-83 schedule! The actual scheduling begins with seniors on March 8th. Blocks of time are set aside for each class and it is important that students get appointments as soon as possible during their class' scheduling period. It would be wise to check at home to be sure everyone at the high school has an appointment between March 8 and May 21. The master schedule (when classes meet, who teaches them, etc.) is now being constructed by Mr. "C" and Dr. Johnson, based on students' choices on the course selection sheets.

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

Recent college acceptances: congratulations go to Cathy Christian, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Christian, 342 North Grand Street, was accepted at Central Connecticut State College and plans to attend there.

Jackie Stafford, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. A. Stafford, 939 North Street, was accepted to Bay Path Junior College; Michael White, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. White, 1350 North Stone Street, was accepted to the University of Hartford and Hartford State Technical.

Tammy Waterman, daughter of Mrs. E. Waterman, 45 Chestnut Drive, gets the distance award for the week as she was accepted to the University of Southern California. Jennifer Berte, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Raymond Berte, 617 Russell Avenue, has added Franklin Pierce to her "accepted to" list.

WORDS OF WISDOM/DATES TO REMEMBER

Households of collegebound seniors should make an extra effort to get income tax done early since financial aid at colleges strict timelines for distribution of aid.

Intramural Basketball Championships Slated

Suffield: On Monday, February 8th, the McAlister Middle School intramural basketball championships will be played. The girls' game will begin at 6:30 p.m., and the boys at 7:30.

Admission is 25¢ for students and 50¢ for adults. Proceeds will be used to fund intramural sports awards at the end of the school year.

Entrance to the gym for this event will be through the rear door only. Everyone in the family is invited.



Suffield Recreation Department

The Suffield Recreation Department has announced the following programs and trips which are scheduled to take place in the near future. Call the department for more information on any of these offerings.

668-0237

MIDDLE SCHOOL INDOOR SOCCER

Five-member teams participate in league play at McAlister Middle School after school. The program begins on February 22nd and runs through March 19th on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays for boys, and on Tuesdays and Thursdays for girls from 2:05 to 3:45 p.m. in the school gym.

CPR & ADVANCED FIRST AID CLASS

A course in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Advanced First Aid will be held at Suffield High School, Room B 17, from February 23rd to April 15th on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30-9:30 p.m.

The course will be taught by Deborah Pohanka, EMSI, assisted by Jane Brockett, Rebecca Robinson, and David Terry. The text will be "American Red Cross AFA" and the workbook is optional.

Pre-registration is required, and a \$5 fee will be charged.

TRIPS

All trips offered include bus fare and admission tickets. They leave from Suffield High School at times announced. Call the Recreation office to make reservations.

SHRINE CIRCUS.

A trip to view the Shrine Circus at the Hartford Civic Center will be made on Friday, February 12th. The show begins at 7:45 p.m. and costs \$7 for each individual, whether child or adult. A few tickets are left.

UConn VS. SYRACUSE BASKETBALL GAME

A trip to the Hartford Civic Center to watch UConn play Syracuse in basketball on February 13th will cost \$9 per individual, whether child or adult. Game time is 1 p.m.

HARTFORD WHALERS VS. MINNESOTA

The Whalers play Minnesota in exciting hockey action on Sunday, March 28th, at the Hartford Civic Center beginning at 7 p.m. Tickets for this trip are \$10 per individual, whether child or adult.

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Suffield School Lunch Menus

Mon., Feb. 8: Hamburger in roll, steamed rice, whole kernal corn, pears in orange juice, milk
Tues., Feb. 9: Antipasto, spaghetti w/meat sauce, whole wheat French bread, fruit cup or raisins, milk
Wed., Feb. 10: Roast turkey, mashed potato, peas, cinnamon bread, gelatin or fruit, milk
Thurs., Feb. 11: Winter Brunch: French toast w/syrup, Canadian bacon, hot applesauce, cheese stick, orange wedges, milk
Fri., Feb. 12: NO SCHOOL: BEGINNING OF WINTER VACATION WEEK

Kindergarten Registrations Scheduled

Suffield: Mrs. Eileen Oleksak, director/principal of early childhood education in Suffield, has announced that kindergarten registration will be held on March 30, 31, April 1, and 2.

Registration packets for children who will be five years old by January 1, 1982, may be picked up at the West Suffield School and the Bridge Street School. If your residence is west of Hill Street, the packet with the child's name on it will be at West Suffield School. If you live east of Hill Street, the packets will be at Bridge Street.

An evening meeting for parents of prospective kindergarten students will be held at Spaulding School in cafeteria B on Thursday, March 25th, at 7:30 p.m. to acquaint parents with the program.

If you know of new families with children in this age group, please ask the to call Mrs. Arlene Coulter at 668-2307 so that the child's can be made up.

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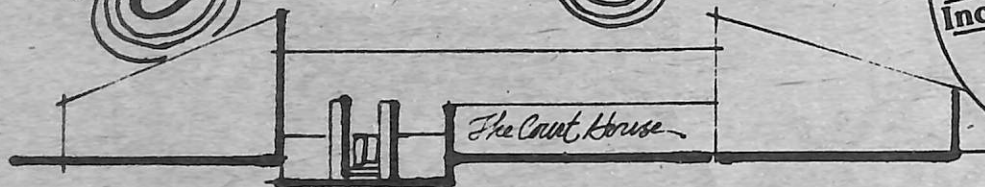
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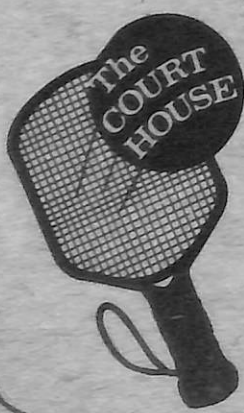
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and children \$3.95. (Champagne served from 12 noon to 2:30)

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SPORTS/RECREATION

Suffield Gymnasts Get Untracked With 3 Wins

By Dawn Cummock

Suffield defeated opponents Windsor Locks and Somers in a tri-meet January 27th in Suffield. The victory was a first for Wildcat gymnasts this year and raised their record from 0-3 to 2-3 overall and from 0-1 to 1-1 in the NCCC.

Tracey Benoit of Suffield took first place in three events - the vault, the uneven bars, and the floor exercise and a second place in the balance beam earning her a total of 27.65 for the Wildcats.

Also placing for Suffield were Dawn Cummock, winning second place on bars and Kelly Drake, taking a first on the beam. Phyllis Rafala of Somers took second on vault, third on bars, and second in the floor exercise earning a total of 24.45 points for her team.

Ann Leonard earned third place on the vault and floor exercise for Windsor Locks.

Suffield tasted sweet success once again when they defeated Weaver and East Windsor in a tri-meet held at Weaver High on January 29th.

The Wildcats raised their record to 4-3 overall and 2-1 in the league. Suffield earned its highest score, 94.85, this year in the tri-meet.

Tracey Benoit was the leading scorer for Suffield again earning a total of 27.65 points and placed in all four events with second on the vault, bars and beam, and first on floor. Also placing for Suffield were Dawn Cummock, with first on vault, Kelly Drake, with first on beam, and Linnea Phillips with third on floor.

Sophia Hunter placed first on the bars for Weaver and teammate Denise Llewellyn earned third place on bars with first on floor and Nina Hamilton was just behind, earning a second for Weaver on floor and third on the beam.

Suffield was losing the meet to both Weaver and East Windsor at the midpoint with by a score of 45.95 to Weaver's 49.2 and East Windsor's 47.25. Suffield didn't give up though and succeeded in winning the remaining events, beam and floor, earning them a victory over Weaver by a slim .15 and over East Windsor by 5.6 points.



KELLY DRAKE OF SUFFIELD HIGH goes through her balance beam routine enroute to a first place showing in a tri-meet with Windsor Locks and Somers High Schools. Kelly's top billing was one of several outstanding performances by the girls as they defeated both schools in the meet. Advertiser/News photo by John Loftus.

Suffield Hoopsters Bow To Tolland, Stun Stafford

By Rick McCarty

Playing at Tolland High, Suffield played the Eagles tough throughout the contest, only to lose when Tolland connected on the foul line. Suffield was forced to foul the Eagles in an effort to recapture possession of the ball during the waning moments of the game. However, Tolland stayed just far enough ahead for a 61-55 decision.

Dejected, dispirited and dumbfounded by their failures, Suffield came home to face the league-leading Stafford Bulldogs, who, going into the contest, had a flawless 6-0 NCCC mark.

Stafford and Suffield had met previously in the season in Bulldog territory with Stafford coming out on top with a 25-point win. In the game, both of Suffield's leading scorers, Dave Simmons and Roger Hawes, were saddled with foul trouble and plagued with poor shooting.

In the rematch on the Suffield stage, Hawes was again in foul trouble picking up his third personal foul in the first quarter. Hawes, who leads the NCCC in scoring, was held to only four points. This fact, in the past, led to Wildcat losses as Hawes has been the leading scorer in the majority of Suffield games.

Although the setting was the same, the plot had a twist that Stafford could not contend with. The twist was a balanced scoring output. Simmons, a senior forward and captain, came up with a 19-point performance while mastering Stafford strongman Al Briscard with relentless defensive pressure.

Meanwhile, the two guards, junior Russ Fricke and freshman Ted Lyon, came up with 10 and 16 points respectively. Also turning in fine performances were senior forwards Tom Morrion and fellow frontliner Andy Davis.

Together they more than compensated for the loss of Hawes as they controlled the offensive and defensive boards.



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SOUTHWICK'S JESSE HANSEN (24) goes for short jumper in recent action against Holyoke Catholic. The Rams won this one but fell to a tough Granby quintet, 51-35 Thursday night. Advertiser/News photo by John Loftus.

Granby Girls Smash Rams, 51-35

By Chris Hout

The Southwick Rams saved their worst performance of the season for a most inopportune time against Granby Thursday night. The visitors ripped the locals 51-35 and maintained their league leading pace in the process.

The Rams, coming into the game sporting a 6-2 mark in the E Division, could have tied Granby with a victory. Granby is now 8-1 following the win and 9-1 overall.

Southwick's inept offense looked more like a tournament of turnovers than an offense that averages better than 50 points per outing.

In addition to turnovers, Southwick shot a dismal 30.7 percent from the floor and canned only 4 of 13 shots from the charity line.

The reason for all this?

"The girls seem to freeze a bit when we play a team with equal or above talent," explained Southwick

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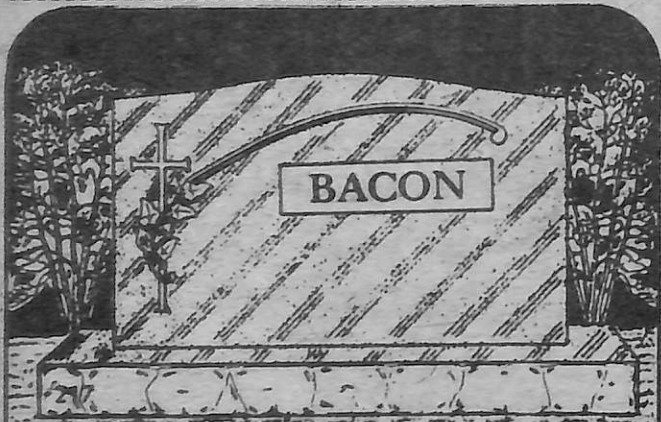
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coach Jim Vincent. "We play really loose against the weaker teams in the league. But the good ones really give us problems. I'm not so sure we could have beaten them (Granby) anyway. They're tough," concluded he.

The Canniff sister, Kelly and Erin, left little doubt to the outcome of this one as they combined for 25 points on the night. Kelly was the games high scorer with 13 points while Erin and teammate Bridgette Roguezz bagged 12 of their own.

Southwick's problems mounted from the start. Jesse Hansen, the Rams inside muscle, was tagged with her third foul of the game with 5:58 left in the first half. Vincent was forced to yank his star center at that time.

Granby, who had built a 20-9 lead, was now taking the ball to the hoop with Hansen on the shelf. They led 26-15 at the half.

Granby opened the second half with a bucket coming off the tap and two more off Ram' turnovers to pad their advantage of 32-15.

They extended the gap to seventeen points (38-21) before Southwick finally got going. A basket by Cindy Lapan (4 points, 3 steals, 1 rebound) and a rebound and another hoop Hansen (6 points, 5 bounds, 1 rejection) brought the locals to within 13 points.

With under a minute left in the third quarter, Granby finally decided to hold the ball for a last shot but Lapan stole the ball and layed it in at the buzzer bringing Southwick back into it, 38-27.

Allison Hiers (6 points, 3 rebounds, 2 assists) put a charge into the home crowd with her bucket to open the final frame. Southwick had cut the deficit under double digits for the first time since very early on and the momentum had swayed in their direction.

Any thoughts of a serious comeback, however, were dimmed shortly after the Hiers' marker as Granby ripped off five consecutive points to open the lead back up to 14 points and secure their ninth victory of the season.

Southwick Falls To Tough Granby

By Chris Hout

According to coach Bob Lawless, his Southwick basketball team got just what they deserved in a 60-41 loss to Granby in E-Division action last Tuesday night.

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Said Lawless, "The way we've been playing lately, I could see this type of performances coming on."

Poor. That they did. Southwick led only once in the ballgame (2-0) and were down by as many as 23 points late in the fourth period.

Granby proceeded to score the next eight points enroute to an 8-2 lead. Allan Swanson cut the lead to 8-4 with a short jumper for Southwick but Granby went on an 11-4 run to lead 19-8 after one.

The visitors, led by Harbarger and Anderson's inside game and Duval's hot hand from the perimeter, led 26-16 at the half.

If it were not for the play of Dave Reed and Mike Molta, the score could have been far worse. Reed let Granby know he was around with 6 points, a rebound, an assist and two steals in the first half. Molta also kept the Rams within sight with 4 points, an assist and two steals of his own.

Granby extended their lead to 30-16 with two successive buckets to open the second half. After both teams cooled off a bit, Granby again picked up the pace and led by 17 points (38-21) with 1:17 left in the third.

After trailing 40-23 entering the final frame, Reed and Swanson opened the session with buckets, cutting the huge deficit to 13 points at 40-27.

Granby slowed the pace and soon took a command position once again and fueled their lead to 46-29 with 5:10 left.

The locals then went into a foul binge and Granby answered from the charity stripe with 10-16 shots on the evening compared to Southwick poor 5-15.

Swanson fouled out with 4:52 left in the mismatch. The senior center finished out the evening with 6 points, 5 boards, an assist and a rejection.

Reed, who finished out the game with 17 points, 4 bounds, 2 assists and 4 steals, rounded out the Southwick scoring with three quick hoops at the end. But it was hardly enough.

Southwick's record dropped to 6-3 in the E-Division and 10-3 overall. Granby is now 7-2 in the league and 10-4 overall.

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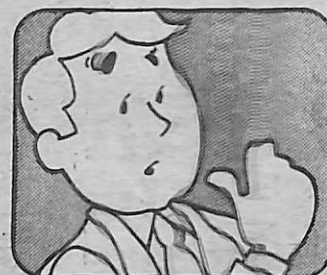
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A View From The Inside

By Ruth C. Fahrbach
CT. State Rep.
61st District



Nursing Home Ombudsman Program

Webster's dictionary defines Ombudsman as "...a public official appointed to investigate citizens' complaints against government agencies...." Under the Department on Aging Nursing Home Ombudsman Program, state and regional ombudsmen serve five major functions: 1) to receive and resolve complaints concerning residents of long-term care facilities; 2) to assist the nursing homes in improving their quality of care; 3) to identify major issues affecting the patients/residents in nursing homes; 4) to attempt to rectify those issues through legislation, regulations, and policy; and 5) to publicize the Ombudsman Office and its functions.

Between July 1, 1980 and June 30, 1981, the ombudsmen received and investigated 765 complaints concerning residents of nursing homes, rest homes and homes for the aged. The majority of the problems dealt with poor quality of care and financial mismanagement by families as well as nursing homes.

The largest percentage of complaints was submitted to the Ombudsman Office by families of patients. Problems that cannot be resolved are referred to the appropriate agency for investigation.

In addition, under the Protective Services Law, regional ombudsmen are also required to investigate reports of abuse, neglect, abandonment, and exploitation of elderly persons in the community. During the same time period, 1408 such reports were received and investigated.

If you have concerns regarding the care or treatment of an elderly person in a nursing home or in the community, you may contact the Office of the State Ombudsman at 566-7770 or the Regional Ombudsman for the Hartford area at 566-5342.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about state government, please feel free to contact me at 566-8534 or at my home at 688-0822.

Ugliest Bartender Contest

Southwick: Bartenders in some Southwick drinking establishments will be competing in the first "Ugliest Bartender Contest" to benefit the fight against Multiple Sclerosis (MS).

UGLY is defined by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society as hot-blooded, coolheaded and big-hearted, and beginning February 10 the search will be on for the ugliest bartender in Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin counties. Local tenders already behind bars are gearing up their campaigns now.

Bar and restaurant patrons will cast ballots by making 25 cent contributions to MS through their competing bartenders. The bartender who garners the most UGLY votes in this region will win a fabulous weekend vacation and a chance for the statewide grand prize: a trip for two to the Bahamas and the coveted title **UGLIEST BARTENDER IN MASSACHUSETTS**.

Throughout the contest tenders will receive t-shirts, cameras and other incentive prizes.

The unique four-week contest is expected to raise thousands of dollars to support research into the cause of MS, a baffling neurological disorder which preys on young adults. Funds raised are also used to provide services to those already afflicted.

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PARK WEST BANK AND TRUST COMPANY



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